Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Credit support; Integrated Infrastructure Development Scheme for encouraging fresh investments; Capital Subsidy Scheme of 12% for investment in technology in select sectors, setting up of Tool Rooms, Process/ Product Development Centres & Technology upgradation and Modernisation Scheme for technology upgradation and enhancing technology base; Scheme for reimbursement of Expenditure up to Rs. 75,000/- for obtaining ISO-9000 and ISO-14001 Certification and Capital Grant to Small Scale Industries Associations for setting up International Standard Laboratories for Quality Upgradation improvement in productivity; Market Development Assistance Scheme, participatin in International Exhibitions, Vendor Development Programmes and Financial Assistance to Industry Associations for setting up of Sub Contracting Exchanges for facilitating marketing.

Presence of organisms in space

†1038. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian scientists have confirmed presence of organisms during their space research;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the country has abandoned the plan of sending its unmanned/Manned Spacecraft to Moon;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) if not, the details thereof and the progress made, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) A joint Indo-UK Team of Scientists conducted an experiment on January 21, 2001 employing ISRO's cryogenic sampler balloon payload to test the presence of extra-terrestrial micro-organisms in the Earth's stratosphere at 41 km.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The samples collected have been extensively analysed by the Team in India and U.K. The results, *inter-alia*, suggestive of the presence of extra-terrestrial micro-organisms entering Earth's atmosphere, were presented at several international symposia/conferences in USA, Europe and India, where they were well received. After exhaustive international scientific scrutiny, a paper containing the path breaking findings has been accepted by the journal 'Microbiology Letters' of Federation of European Microbiology Societies.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The National Task Team constituted by ISRO to study the possibility of a Lunar Mission has submitted a report which contain the scientific objectives of the Lunar Mission, the instrumentation required, spacecraft configuration, power and propulsion systems and the launch vehicle requirements and associated ground support requirements.

Projects running behind the schedule

†1039. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of on-going projects involving cost of over Rs. 100 crore is 275;

(b) if not, the exact number thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that their cost is increasing day by day;

(d) if so, the amount required for their completion at present and how much it exceeds the original cost anticipated earlier; and

(e) the amount spent thereon upto March, 2002 ?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.